

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Provided is a block heater structured so as to be capable of maintaining the thermal transmission and thermal effect, as well as the mechanical strength, in a prescribed state in the respective components upon assembling the sheathed heater, cylindrical body, cap, and so on of the engine cooling water antifreeze block heater. This block heater has a sheathed heater 2 having a heating element 18 embedded in heat-resistant insulation powder 22 inside a sheath 11; a cylindrical body 3 for retaining the back-end portion of the sheathed heater and mounted onto a heater mounting portion of an automotive engine block; and a cap 4 attached to the opposite end of the sheathed heater of this cylindrical body, and structured so as to retain the heater connection end of a cable 5 having a power supply outlet at one end thereof. A gap 30 is provided between the end on the cap side of the cylindrical body and the end on the body side of the cap. A gap 33 is also provided between the end on the sheathed heater side in the sheathed heater retaining portion formed with the cylindrical body and the heating element constituted by heating wire inside the sheathed heater.